

The Organized Village of Kasaan's Energy Planning Process

Kasaan, Alaska

Tribal Energy Planner: Glenn “Stormy” Hamar

Mission Statement

The Organized Village of Kasaan is committed to promoting, preserving, and protecting indigenous Haida identity and values. For our elders and youth, we look to the future in unity, by developing economic opportunities, promoting education, and utilizing our cultural, natural, and social resources.

Vision:

The Organized Village of Kasaan has a long range vision of being economically, socially and culturally self-sustaining.

History of the Organized Village of Kasaan

- The Organized Village of Kasaan (OVK) is a federally recognized tribal government that was established on October 15, 1938. The organization consists of a seven member tribal council which serves at the pleasure of 100+ tribal memberships.

Old Kasaan



THE ORGANIZED
VILLAGE OF KASAAAN

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New Kasaan



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Kasaan Today



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Between Two Worlds



What now??

We need a plan...

- We need to rediscover sustainability.
- We need to learn to use modern technology to our advantage as opposed to letting it destroy us.
- We need to credit our ancestors and their example of a sustainable way of life.
- We need to heed the warning signs that our world is sending us.
- We need to carefully analyze our situation.
- We need a plan if our people are going to continue to exist.

Our plan development process

- Refer to our mission statement.
- Use a cultural thought process.
- Utilize our most important resource, our tribal members.
- Keep it as simple as possible.
- Use processes that are proven to get results for our tribe.
- Remember that efficiency, renewable energy and independence are vital to our sustainability and the overall wellbeing of our people.

In Recovery

- The “First Steps” grant from the DOE is the help we needed to develop our own energy plan.
- Bring our people together, ask for their help in planning, prompt questions and listen very closely to them. Every person is very valuable.
- Learn as much as possible about energy and see if anything fits the tribes culture.
- Use cultural, sustainable thought processes.

Local Energy Partners

- Each and every person in our village.
- The tribal government.
- The city government.
- The corporation.
- The school district.

Energy Vision

“The Organized Village of Kasaan’s energy vision is of a healthy, efficient, sustainable community, having our own renewable energy system which supplies Kasaan as well as other communities with reasonably priced power, improving the overall well-being of our area.”

Irony and Interesting

- Our ancestors were experts in energy efficiency and conservation and only used renewable energy.
- The more modern we have become, the more energy we have used.
- The use of respect and long term thinking is essential to the health of the world, this often means we need to use self control.
- Renewability or sustainability is generally directly related to our rate of use.

Important Discoveries

- Too many people don't understand energy. They need energy education.
- One of the best ways to create change is through our schools. Kids teach their parents and grandparents.
- Everyone likes the idea of clean reliable energy, if it is affordable enough.
- Most people want everyone to have more efficient homes.

Demand



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The basic demand side of the plan

- Teach energy in the schools as well as holding community wide learning events. Have information available in our library.
- Encourage and incentivize building improvements and new building construction.
- Work with organizations that specialize in energy efficiency and conservation measures.
- Empower ourselves with knowledge and tools for making sustainable improvements.

Potential Supply



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The basic supply side of the plan

- Educate our people on renewable energy.
- Encourage and incentivize individual renewable energy development.
- Develop Linkum Creek as a hydro power source for not only our village but the rest of Prince of Wales Island.



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The Ultimate Goal

- For our tribe to be healthy and sustainable once again.
- To share what we learn with others and help them reach their goals.
- Improve the tribe, improve the world.

Háw'aa

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